



# JORDAN TIMES

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## Heed our call

JORDAN'S URGENT request to the United Nations Security Council for a special meeting to consider Israel's policy of creeping colonialism in the occupied territories is both well-timed and well-founded.

It serves as a useful reminder to the parties gathered at Camp David for the Egyptian-Israeli peace negotiations that one of those parties, namely Israel, has, since the start of those negotiations last autumn, consistently, deliberately and defiantly violated the spirit of the Camp David accords.

Jordan's ambassador at the U.N. is correct in drawing the world body's attention to the "ominous and accelerating erosion of the status of Jerusalem and the rest of the occupied Arab territories" as a consequence of the Israeli occupiers' "systematic, relentless and deliberate" settlements policy.

Those members of the world body who are usually sympathetic to Israel would be dangerously wrong to view this request as just another attempt by the U.N.'s "Afro-Asian majority" to "gang up" on Israel. For Jordan's request is no idle gesture; it is stimulated by more than just our deep-seated opposition to Zionism and imperialism. It is an appeal for common sense and the rules of international morality to be applied in a case of calculated provocation by a militaristic and expansionist occupying power. It is also a warning to the world that it is Israel's aggressive actions which imperil whatever progress towards a peaceful resolution of the Middle East conflict that might have emerged in the past year, or might still emerge, either within the Camp David framework or outside it.

We fail to see how the world community can continue to ignore acts of blatant aggression and provocation by Israel in territories which she has occupied by force and which the same world community has agreed, in Resolution 242, that she must evacuate and return to their rightful owners forthwith. We hope the Security Council does call Israel to account, and that this will be the beginning of a concerted effort—of which Jordan is also in the vanguard—to tighten up 242 and get Israel out of the conquered land which she is now busy colonising.

## ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

AL RA'I editorially Saturday criticises President Anwar Sadat's declaration that he was ready to "protect the Arabian peninsula countries at a time when Egyptian troops were being flown to the Sultanate of Oman to replace the Iranian forces which were withdrawn after the new Iranian regime was set up."

The newspaper recalls that it was Anwar Sadat who convinced the late President Jamal Abdul Nasser to involve the Egyptian armed forces in the North Yemen war early in the sixties by giving him false information, as Nasser had confessed later in one of his speeches.

An analysis of the Egyptian logic shows that Israel no more poses a threat to the Arab nation or never posed a threat at any time, the newspaper claims.

It refers to President Jimmy Carter as saying yesterday that he will take into consideration the Egyptian suggestion and the Egyptian role in the Middle East but after signing the "unilateral treaty" with Israel. President Carter's statement confirms the reported existence of an American strategy in the area whereby Egypt and Israel will share the role between themselves after signing their peace treaty.

AL DUSTOUR fears that the Sino-Vietnamese fighting might develop into a world conflagration, particularly if the Chinese forces penetrated deeper into Vietnamese territory and stayed there. In this case, the newspaper adds, the Soviet Union would be compelled to come to the aid of Vietnam by opening a battle front in the north against China, despite the fact that Moscow's involvement in the Far East might be exploited by the Western countries to change the military situation in central Europe in their favour.

The Western countries, particularly the U.S., are now gloating at two communist states being locked in war; these two states which had cooperated in bringing about the U.S. defeat in Vietnam.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

Photo Documentary Exhibit

The French Cultural Centre has a documentary exhibition on display about Georges Sand. Open during regular hours.

Lecture

Prof. Werner Ende, professor of Arabic at Hamburg University, will give a lecture at the University of Jordan's History Dept. at 3:00 p.m. The lecture is on "German Sources to the History of the Arabian Peninsula and the Gulf States in the Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Centuries."

Folklore Performance

The Embassy of Pakistan presents the Pakistani folkdance troupe, Pucar Dance Ensemble, in a performance at the Palace of Culture at 8:00 p.m. There will be a second performance on Monday at the same time.

## Jordan to buy share of new Arab industrial investment company

By a Jordan Times staff reporter

AMMAN, Feb. 24—In a decision this week, the Cabinet pledged that Jordan will purchase a one per cent share of the proposed Arab industrial investment company. The price is equivalent to 1.5 million Iraqi dinars which is

nearly the same as Jordanian dinars.

The Baghdad-based company is to establish industrial investments throughout the Arab World with priority to develop industry in the fields of electronics and mining. Better economic cooperation and coordination between the states in the region are expected as by-products of the company.

## Confessions of a piano tuner

By Virginia Buchanan

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN—"Revelations from inside the pianos of Amman—does that strike a chord?" quipped the tuner of our piano.

Had just been asked if he ever found any secrets or hidden treasure in the pianos he took apart.

"Sometimes pianos are trash cans," he said. "I've found ball-point pens, gum, half a dozen letters, a dollar bill, rings, coins and lots of dust. Once there was an old cigarette box pushed behind the strings for support. That brand was out of date 40 years ago!"

No one seems to know how or when the first piano came to Amman, but they have been coming by land, sea, and planes in ever-increasing numbers the last three years. Piano playing has become popular in Amman, and every April a teacher from London's Royal College of Music flies to Jordan to give examinations (from beginners to eighth grade). It helps to stimulate interest and the 49 students who are currently taking the exams are able to compare their progress internationally.

More pianos mean more demand for the six piano tuners in Amman who have themselves been pianists and teachers and have a deep appreciation for these beautiful instruments. Times have certainly changed: In 1962 there were no tuners, and pianists had to summon one from Jerusalem.

"A piano deserves good care," he continued. "Ideally, it should be placed against an inside wall, not in a damp basement, not in a draft, or in a glassed-in veranda where it is cold and wet in winter and hot and dry in summer. Once in a house the piano was put next to a hot radiator, and one had to wait while the strings cooled off. Once in Ajlun I found the piano in a crypt, and another time a piano had been pushed out on the patio to sunbathe. I felt like wrapping a scarf around it!"

"The changes in temperature can crack the sounding board which is made of spruce and stands at the back of the strings. It magnifies the sound and if it cracks, it's a write-off—no sound at all."

Piano styles have changed with the years following the dictates of the furniture manufacturers. When low-profile furniture became the vogue the pianos had to be lower in height. Their quality was not affected, however, because the action has been lowered inside.

But let's get back to the anonymous "Confessions of a Piano Tuner."

"Over the last decade in Amman I've tuned a cross-section of pianos ranging from antiques to the latest in Danish-style casings. I

particularly liked an Austrian piano built in 1900. One family very proud of their piano kept it polished assiduously though no one had played it for 20 years. When they decided that it should be tuned, I was horrified upon opening it—all rusty, dusty and moth-eaten. Another piano I mourned over had been locked up for ten years and most of the insides fell to dust before my eyes.

"There have been some odd situations in the past when concert pianists have come to town and literally had to adapt their styles to a piano out of tune. One hotel had a grand piano which musicians played through dinner time by soft candlelight. It started sounding awful. I had to dig out gobs of wax that had melted into the upper register and broken the strings. You'd have thought Liberace had been there."

"Remember, a piano is basically a musical instrument before a piece of furniture. The casing is just to hide the 12,000 pieces inside. It's a great engineering piece. There are 215 strings, with a normal pull of 79 kilos tension for each string: that's about 14 tons. A concert grand piano has 240 strings and 20 tons of tension. But some strings will tend to have a tension of 80 or 60 kilos, making the tension on the back uneven which can warp the frame to which the strings are attached and permanently harm the sound of the piano. That's why a piano should be tuned regularly once a year whether you play it or not."

"Some of the old pianos in Amman are in bad condition, and even owners of new ones should realise that theirs need maintenance. Besides tuning there are adjustments to be made inside: screws get loose, and the hammers, made of felt, get cut by the strings and need re-shaping. It's false economy to neglect pianos, old or new."

"As for moving a piano, never push it around. Always lift it gently or put it on a trolley. Don't even push it across the carpet, because of that huge tension inside. One time a year-old piano that I had already tuned was sold and transported in a small truck to a new abode, without being wrapped or padded to soften the jarring. The soft-pedal was dislocated, the whole soft-pedal board had fallen down inside, and three keys were out of commission. Another family rented a piano and ordered it delivered to the house. First the men pushed it through a pile of sand by the road, pulled it along the concrete driveway and broke the marble steps. No wonder parts of the action were damaged. A piano should be treated like spun glass!"

"A piano is like life; you get out of it what you put into it. And it's not good to randomly thump either one!"

# JORDAN TIMES

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Genuinely interested candidates should contact Mr. Lee on 67171, between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., from Monday to Friday, to arrange interview and test.

First time in Jordan

## Private corp. bonds to be sold for cement factory

By Rami G. Khouri  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN, Feb. 24—The newest bank in town is launching the newest game in town, as the Arab Finance Corporation (Jordan), the recently licensed merchant bankers, are preparing to issue the first bonds in Jordan on behalf of a private borrower.

This will be a JD 5 million issue for the Jordan Cement Factories Co. Ltd., and it will be the first issue of private corporate bonds to

## Coming & Going

Arab Potash Co. chairman off to Baghdad

AMMAN, Feb. 24 (JNA)—Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Arab Potash Company (APC) Ali Khasawneh left for Baghdad today for a two-day visit. He said before departure that his talks with officials at the Iraqi Ministry of Finance will deal with Iraq's payment of its \$10 million dollar share in the capital of APC. He will also hold talks with officials at the Iraqi development fund for implementing an agreement that provides for a \$15 million loan to APC, Mr. Khasawneh said.

Pakistani dance troupe arrives in Amman

AMMAN, Feb. 24 (JNA)—The Pakistani Pucar Dance Ensemble arrived here last night for a 12-day visit to Jordan. During the visit the troupe will put on performances at the Palace of Culture, Al Hussein Youth City, and later at other towns in Jordan. The visit is in implementation of a cultural agreement between Jordan and Pakistan.

rowing capacity in reserve for those projects that may not be fully financed from domestic sources.

"We will also address ourselves as much as possible to the individual investors, the small, private investors, to reach all potential buyers in the country," Dr. Salim said.

He said the bonds would be denominated in values as small as JD 10 in order to appeal to individuals, and he anticipated "a very big and a very wide selling group including banks and financial institutions throughout the country," which would make the job of buying a bond that much easier for an investor, who could complete the transaction at a local bank branch.

The bonds would all have a single, fixed interest rate, and would be listed and traded on the Amman Financial Market (stock exchange). Unlike existing issues of government bonds, they would not be redeemable with the issuer, but rather would be sold to other buyers on the stock exchange, according to the present plans for the bond issue, Dr. Salim said.

They would also be registered, and not bearer bonds, so the cement company would always know who was holding the bonds as they were sold from one person to another. Dr. Salim said special new procedures are being worked out with the stock exchange management to make the registration task "smooth and easy," as well as of minimal cost.

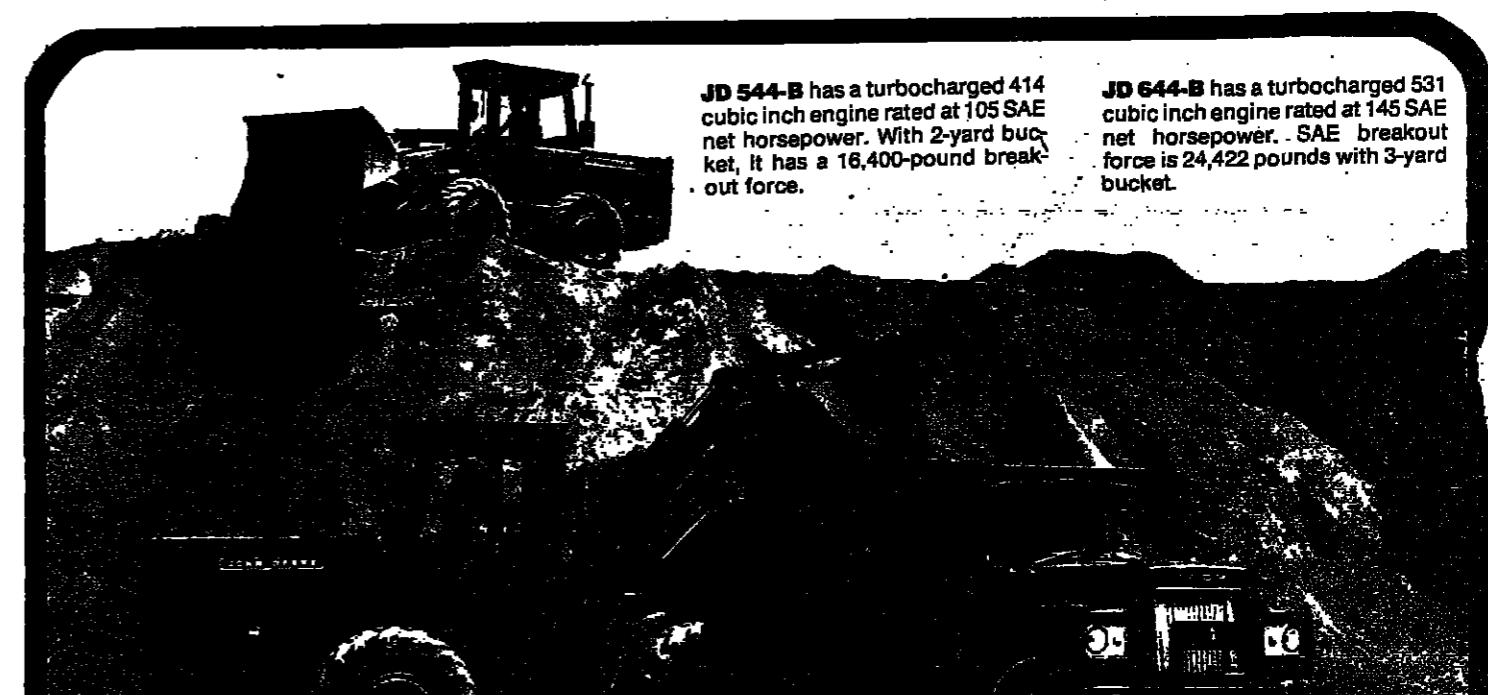
"These would not be bearer bonds," Dr. Salim said, "but something moving close to bearer bonds in the ease of buying and selling."

He also thought the bond would be sold in the local market, and that the liquidity of the Jordanian marketplace was such that the bonds would be sold quickly.

He also thought these and other bond issues in the future would prove popular with banks and other financial institutions, such as insurance companies or investment banks, because they can be sold at quick notice when cash is required, and do not tie up bank's money for long-term periods in the manner that a syndicated loan does.

JD 544-B has a turbocharged 414 cubic inch engine rated at 105 SAE net horsepower. With 2-yard bucket, it has a 16,400-pound break-out force.

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Joe is in

Jordan bonds ent



their cultural heritage through dance  
The Pucar Dance Ensemble of Pakistan  
will be performing Sunday, Feb. 25 (by invitation  
only), Monday, Feb. 26 (open to public) at 8  
Palace of Culture at Al Hussein Youth  
dances are performed traditionally  
as the seasons of sowing and harvest, as well as  
occasions such as weddings. Included

will be classical, semi-classical, ballet and folk  
dances besides a tribal dance, a war dance, a mar-  
riage dance and much more all accompanied by a  
she-member orchestra. The programme is pre-  
sented by the Ministry of Culture and Youth,  
Department of Culture and Arts, in cooperation  
with the Pakistani Embassy.

## NATIONAL NEWS QUOTE

**Jordan-Gulf Bank opens in Amman**  
AMMAN, Feb. 24 (JNA)—The new head office of the Jordan-Gulf Bank was inaugurated here today by Central Bank Governor Abd Al-Nabulsi who was representing His Highness Crown Prince. Speaking at the inaugural ceremony, the chairman of the board of directors Mohammad Nazzal Armoori said help in the development of Jordan's economy in con-  
nection with the country's five-year development projects. Nearly 60  
bank's JD 5 million capital is owned by Jordanians and 40 per cent is owned by citizens of Arab Gulf States, said. The opening ceremony was attended by leading  
and directors of Jordanian banks.

**an delegation discusses medical help for Jordan**

Feb. 24 (JNA)—A delegation representing the West  
medical association explored with Jordanian officials here

## JORDAN STOCK EXCHANGE REPORT

COMPANY	Par Value	Volume Traded	Last Buying Offer	Last Selling Offer	Closing Price
Al-Oula Co.	JD 5,000	789	—	6,580	6,580
Al-Salt Factories	JD 10,000	2,252	14,400	—	14,400
Amphibian Mines	JD 1,000	2,185	2,160	2,200	2,170
Aracel Co.	JD 5,000	923	17,650	—	17,750
Bank	JD 1,000	103	1,020	1,030	1,030
Electricity Co.	JD 1,000	972	1,340	1,360	1,340
Factories	JD 1,000	109	0,730	—	0,730
Cardboard Factories	JD 1,000	108	—	—	0,720
Chemical and Silicate Brick Co.	JD 5,000	138	4,400	4,750	4,600
Desert Insurance Co.	JD 10,000	1,260	—	—	11,000
Desert Insurance Co.	JD 10,000	3,512	70,250	—	70,250

traded, Saturday, Feb. 24: JD 12,331  
er of shares traded: 2,690

COMPANY	Par Value	Volume Traded	Number Traded	Year of Maturity	Selling Price
Development Bonds	JD 5,000	878	169	1980	5,200
	JD 5,000	642	126	1982	5,150
	JD 5,000	504	100	1983	5,040

traded: JD 2,024

**THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND YOUTH  
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE AND ARTS**  
In cooperation with  
**THE EMBASSY OF THE PAKISTANI ISLAMIC REPUBLIC**

Presents  
The Pucar Folkloric Troupe

At 8:00 p.m. on Sunday and Monday, Feb. 25 and 26, 1979 at the Palace of Culture, Al-Hussein Sport City.

Open invitation

297,00/299,00  
598,00/602,00  
160,70/161,70  
178,40/179,50  
69,50/69,90  
35,30/35,50  
147,50/148,40  
148,60/149,50  
101,70/102,30  
68,20/68,60

## Survey to probe family budgeting in Jordan

By Breda Finegan

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN—What does the average Jordanian earn? How much does the average housewife spend in housekeeping a month? Do Jordanians have a special hankering after one type of food? How much, and how frequently do they spend on clothes, the cinema, groups in order to compile dependable averages?

The answers to all these questions and many more will be revealed in the middle of next year following a completely up-to-date survey on family budgeting to be carried out by the Department of Statistics in cooperation with the Economic Commission for Western Asia (ECWA).

The survey, to be conducted by approximately 60 people, will be the first family expenditure survey in Jordan since 1967 and will be adopted as the new base year for comparisons and predictions, Mr. Shuja Al Assad, Director General of the Department of Statistics in Amman told the Jordan Times.

Currently in Jordan to help in preparing for this survey is Dr. Adel Al Akel, the Regional Advisor in Statistics and National Accounts at ECWA headquarters in Beirut, who described the operation to the Jordan Times as being very much like "a small census."

At present the department is poring over maps of Amman and the regions in order to determine exactly who the 1,600 questionnaire will go to.

"It is all decided according to the laws of sampling," Dr. Akel said.

"Take the city of Amman," he went on, "we define first five main areas according to income. Each area is then divided into subsections, which are numbered, and a few of these subsections are picked completely at random — like out of a hat."

Field workers will then be sent

to each of the chosen subsections to compile a comprehensive list of all the people in that area. A certain number of families who will be the subject of this survey are chosen out of that list completely at random.

This procedure is a simplified explanation of the process of selection which will be applied to all areas of Amman and 30 cities and villages around the country. The object is basically to get a fair representation from all income groups in order to compile

The actual footwork and information gathering for the family survey is scheduled to begin on April 1, Mr. Al Assad said. The teams of field workers will be calling on families and asking very detailed questions about their financial status—questions which will possibly be sensitive.

"We realize that people will be

suspicious at first and worry in

case the information they give will

affect their taxes. Yes, people are

often unwilling to participate and

we use every reassuring, con-

fidence-winning method we can

to talk them into participating," Dr. Akel said.

In fact, the law (Public Statistics

Law, 1959) obliges public coop-

eration in such surveys and a per-

son can be brought to court for

non-participation although this

has never been applied. In return,

however, the law also guarantees

the complete confidentiality of the

personal information gathered.

"No one, not even the tax depart-

ment, the law courts or the prime

minister can demand information

on any individual contributing to

the survey conducted for statis-

tical information," Mr. Al Assad

said reassuringly, citing an exam-

ple of a recent request made by the

courts for information on an indi-

vidual which he had refused to

disclose at the meeting.

Having won a family's coop-

eration, the interviewer leaves an

Auxiliary Register Book for the

family's own day to day itemized

records of expenditure.

The interviewer's questionnaire

will be divided into three main

parts: The composition of the fami-

ly, expenditures, and incomes.

Most of the interviewers will be women, Dr. Akel said, because in cases where the mother is illiterate the interviewer will be able to sit with her in the kitchen and take down all the information verbally.

Mr. Al Assad said he hoped it would be possible to conduct such a survey every five years because the pattern of consumption changes so quickly.

Jordan it seems is quite a leader in the field of statistics in the area. Figures for Jordan's National Accounts go back as far as 1959 and partial figures are available for as early as 1952.

Another thing Mr. Al Assad is

understandably very proud of is

that the publication, "National

Accounts in Jordan 1952-1976"

(issued in March 1978), was com-

plied according to the latest

United Nations System of

National Accounts established in

1968 to make National Accounts

uniform and easily comparable

worldwide. Jordan is the first

Arab country to apply this new

system which it did with much

technical cooperation from

ECWA.

The United Nations system was

introduced in order to give a more

comprehensive description of the

economic activity of every country.

Any national account includes

full information on total input,

output and the financial activity of

the country as a whole. Being a

national account this also must

include the financial dealings of all

its nationals—at home or abroad.

Now in Jordan 1975 is being

used as the base year for national

accounts. Following the com-

pletion of the family survey how-

ever, 1979 will become the new

base year.

Dr. Akel will be in Jordan until

March 2, during which time he will

be offering invaluable advice to

the department on all aspects of

the coming survey.

The Queen also visited the

Mafraq library and a residence for the

paralysed which contains about

forty children. The Queen

stressed that more care must be

offered for paralysed children.

She later visited Yarmouk Uni-

versity where she was briefed by

President of the University Dr.

Adnan Badran on the achieve-

ments and future plans of the uni-

versity.

On the last leg of her tour the

Queen went to Ajloun where she

visited the Teacher Training

Institute for girls and was briefed

by the principal on the activities of

the institute in the presence of

# Finally the artist makes a self-portrait



By Janset Shami  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN—Princess Fahr-el-Nissa, who has done thousands of paintings and given 45 exhibitions all over the world, had neglected something:

"I never thought about it, till Suha reminded me," she says simply. What Suha, the wife of Mr. Khalid Shuman of the Arab Bank, had reminded her, was this: Princess Fahr-el-Nissa has never done a self-portrait.

So now at the age of 77, the daughter of Shakir Pasha of the Ottoman Empire, the wife of Prince Zaid Al Hussein of the Hashemites, and the mother of Prince Raad Ibn Zaid, is busy bringing to life the colourful expression of her inner life, in the form of a portrait! Although yet incomplete, the portrait already contains the depth and the richness of the artist's great personality.

Perhaps the portrait was not done till now because the artist had been able to express her inner life and her life's philosophy in so many styles of painting. She had expressed it powerfully, convincingly and with sensitivity.

Turkish born Princess Fahr-el-Nissa's father Shakir Pasha was a diplomat and an historian, and her uncle, Cevat Pasha, was one of the last prime ministers of the Ottoman Empire. This family of culture offered in Fahr-el-Nissa and her immediate relatives, seven international known artists in different fields. To name some: Shirin Devrim, well-known actress and stage director, is Princess Fahr-el-Nissa's daughter. Cevat Shakir, the writer, is her brother. Aliye Berger, the engraver, is her sister. Fureya Kiliç, the ceramicist, is her niece.

The artist's childhood was spent in Prince's Island in Istanbul. Later she studied at the Academy of Arts, and continued her studies in Paris. She started to give herself to art completely after her children started school.

She has given exhibition in the most important capitals of the world. She had exhibited first in Istanbul in 1944, then at St. George's Gallery in London. At that time, Mr. Collins, the director of the Institute of Contemporary Arts wrote this about her in *Times and Tide*:

"Fahr-el-Nissa Zaid is evidently an artist to be taken very



Self-portrait

seriously. She has made a first appearance which would be hard to parallel. No doubt we shall hear a great deal more of her later on."

He was very right. Everybody started hearing about her soon. Next year she exhibited at the Gimpel Gallery. By that time her style had started to move towards abstraction. The French became very interested in her work. She exhibited in Paris in 1949, 1951 and 1953. Critics of great importance like Charles Etienne and Jacques Lassaigne wrote of her in the most praiseworthy terms and claimed that her art stood alone. André Maurois praised her work in an article he wrote for the cover of her New York exhibition at the Hugo Gallery.

For Princess Fahr-el-Nissa, painting is living. She has to paint in order to feel she is alive. At the same time it is a kind of painful experience. She creates under impossible conditions. She waits for the impossible situation to arise and she helps it to become more impossible herself.

"I have to work in difficulty. I have to make the impossible possi-

ble. I arrive to the result by struggle," she says.

Prince Zaid bought a house in Ischia, Italy. After the busy days of settling was over, on a summer morning Princess Fahr-el-Nissa went out to the balcony. She thought, the sun, the lush green of the trees bordering the sea and the sky was inviting her to paint. She prepared her studio and planned to work. But she could not. "The very beauty of the environment was overwhelming me," she says. Then the winter came. There was a big storm. The sky was dark. Fahr-el-Nissa ran up to her studio and started working furiously. Brilliant colours appeared on the huge canvas. The landscape's summertime beauty came alive under her brush. She was getting terribly cold up there is the studio. Then the electricity went out. She shouted downstairs: "Bring me a candle." The candle was brought up promptly. The artist continued, till the painting was completed.

The situation was similar with the recent self-portrait. After she decided to make the portrait, for days she could not start. But one

morning she went up to the studio as soon as she woke up. "I chose a big canvas," she says. "I placed the outline on it with charcoal. When I was satisfied the way the picture was placed, I started working, without bothering to dress up. I had prepared big amounts of paints on the palette, days ago. They were nearly dry. I was dipping my brush into them trying to take out some colour and to mix them with others. I was feeling cold and hungry. Paint was all over my arms and nightgown and even on my slippers. I worked the whole day in this condition. I only stopped when I was sure that the impossible had become possible."

Princess Fahr-el-Nissa had done oils, she had done water-colours, she had done work with black and coloured china ink. She had painted on canvases, on rocks, on pebbles, on chicken bones. She had invented media in order to offer new channels for the abundance of her creativity. When she had painted in oils, she had done crowds of people in their daily activities. In these cases, her ever-active mind had transformed the ordinary into the extraordinary, through her brush. She had done portraits and had penetrated into the most intimate and yet most important core of the persons. She had done gigantic abstracts (10-15 metres long) without losing contact with the idea or feeling which had prompted her to undertake the task. In ink, she had done domes and minarets. She had done people preparing themselves to pray. She had done boats swaying on the sunnier waves of Bosphorus. In water colours she had done more portraits of rare transparency.

For the past three years, Princess Fahr-el-Nissa has lived in Amman in a villa which is close to her son, Prince Raad. Several times a year, the artist arranges an open house when citizens of Amman are given the chance to view her work.

The villa's ceilings, as well as its walls, are covered with paintings. It is a unique experience for the viewers to see such diversity in the artist's work without getting lost. This is achieved as the abundance and the variety of the work is unified by strong ties: the artist's penetration under the surface of the subject, her deep understanding of all the elements and a certain philosophy of life, which embraces the cosmos.



The artist at work



One of the artist's paintings showing her style to the abstract.

Nephew of Katalin Granoff, a famous art critic and gallery owner in Paris. This painting is the first portrait Princess Fahr-el-Nissa did, and was a present to Katalin Granoff. Having put it in the window of the gallery three years before, she was offered four million francs for it.

*"I have to work in difficulty."*

*"I have to make the impossible possible."*

*"I arrive to the result by struggle."*

*...Princess Fahr-el-Nissa*

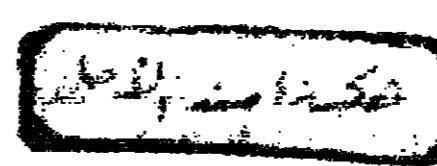


A portrait



Cosmos

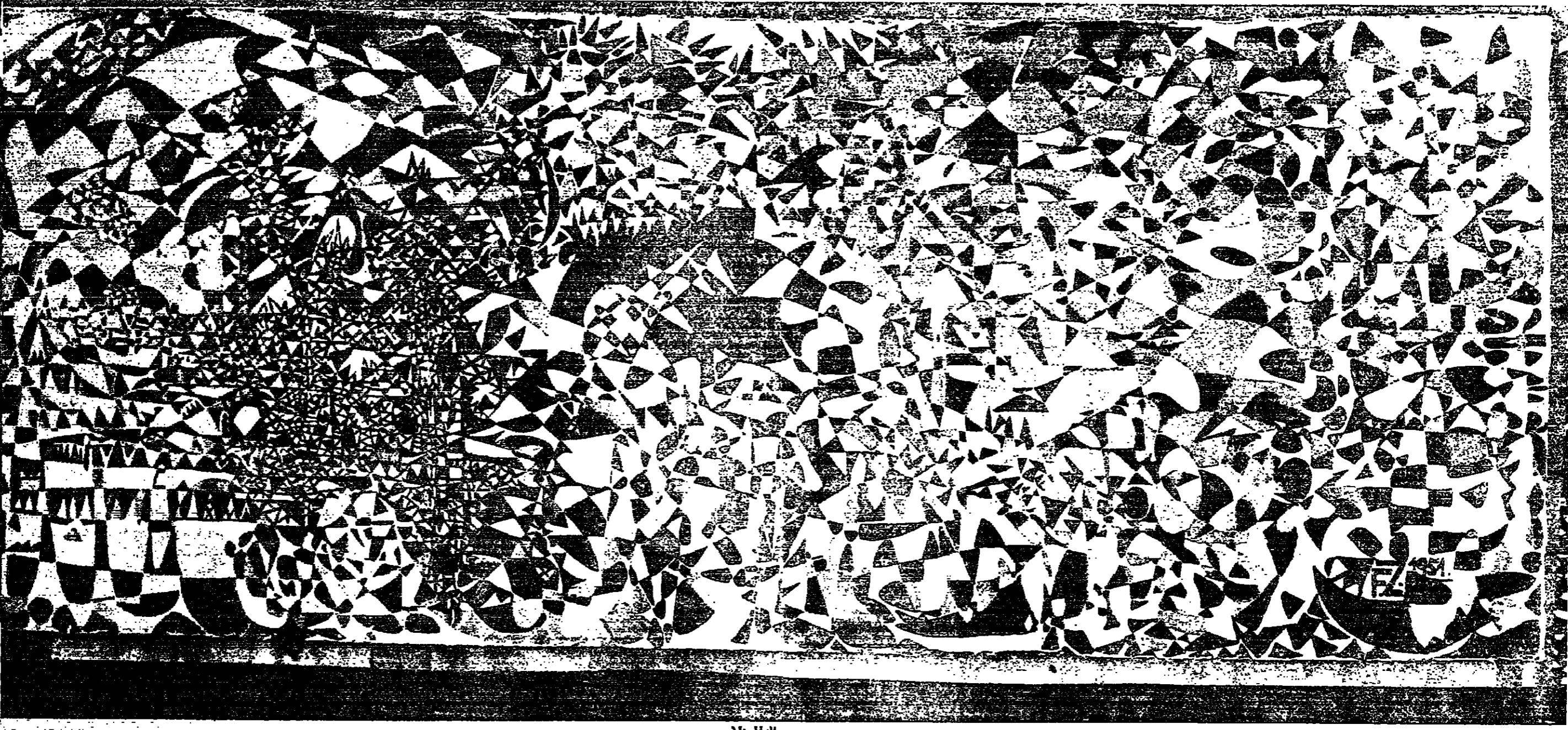
de Nîmes



train

The artist at work

paintings showing her



My Hell

*"No doubt we shall hear a great deal more of her later on"*

...An art critic in Time and Tide, 1944



Detail from Cosmos



Cosmos



Princess Fahr-el-Nissa is attracted to rocks because of their eternity. She paints them with loving care. The art critic of "Art News and Review" of London, Dora Ouvalev, wrote about

the Princess: "She gave them a new life and introduced them in the world of her painting. And the eternity of the stone became art."

An electrical power failure which put the lights out all over France recently was a salutary reminder to the average Frenchman of the penalty he will have to pay for Government delays in the nuclear power programme.

By Jack Gee

**PARIS**—When almost every home and factory in France spent a dark and chilly day without electricity during Christmas week most citizens thought this worst power failure in living memory was a unique discomfort which would probably never be repeated.

Now they have discovered that, until the country's nuclear power programme is completed in the middle of 1985, they will have to suffer sudden shut-downs of this type every winter.

Domestic consumers and major factories are up in arms against the Government and Electricité de France, the publicly owned generating authority, for letting them run so perilously short of kilowatts.

The French grid collapsed like a house of cards on December 19 when over-loading on a high tension line between the German border and Paris triggered a cut-out which plunged 22m users into darkness.

The black-out, which continued until late afternoon, cooled breakfast-time café au lait and stopped Metro passengers in tunnels and lifts between floors.

Surgeons had to complete operations by torchlight in hospitals lacking their own generators.

Unlike Britain and other countries which enjoy a surplus of electric power, France is in the throes of a shortage which has been rendered inevitable by a series of miscalculations made immediately after the Yom Kippur War of 1973.

Responding to the economic crisis which followed the Middle East conflict, the Government slowed down its programme for building nuclear power stations. Since each of these costs £300m the immediate economies were spectacular.

The Government also saved money by refusing to authorise construction of gas turbine generators to make up for the delay in delivering nuclear current.

The situation was further bedevilled by the slow pace of work on nuclear reactors already under construction. France's first pressurised water reactor at Fessenheim on the Rhine was delivered 21 months late. The overall nuclear programme is now running two years behind schedule.

Delaying tactics adopted by determined groups of ecologists

also contributed to the slowdown. Marcel Boiteux, the newly appointed chairman of Electricité de France, has recently warned the west of France, where hostility to nuclear power stations is particularly strong, that the cost of bringing current from the other side of the country will have to be added to their electricity bills.

When the lights went out all over France on December 19, the western part—Brittany, the Atlantic coast and Normandy—was, as usual, burning up more current than it generates. Also as usual, the east was providing more than it uses.

This caused a drop in production which was met by an order to power stations in the east to step up production. But the sudden pressure on the grid caused a cut-out which spread along the entire network. This is a situation which, unless the Bretons and their neighbours accept nuclear power stations, could become a permanent factor of French life.

Supplies of emergency current are of relatively little help. Foreign sources of power—from Germany, Spain, Belgium, Italy and Britain—account for about eight per cent of total consumption. The new power line planned between

England and France could boost this to 10 per cent.

The French Government has shown extraordinary complacency in allowing such a chronic shortage of power to develop. Because of the long-lead times required to build power stations—five years for a conventional thermal station and over seven to link a nuclear reactor to the grid—there is little scope for remedial action.

To maintain nuclear construction at its present rhythm of 5,000 megawatts a year (the rate planned for the next four years), Electricité de France will have to invest 24bn francs this year. This is equivalent to two-thirds of the total investment by all publicly owned French corporations.

That is why the Government showed no sympathy with Electricité de France's pleas for permission back in 1976 to build two coal-fired stations and ten gas turbines which could have been installed by now. So far only the authority to select sites has been given for the gas turbines. The generating authority has been told it can begin preliminary work on one coal-fired power station and on new hydro stations.

All these decisions have been dictated by the State's desire to

maintain the rhythm of the nuclear programme without adding to an electrical investment burden which is rising at the rate of 20 per cent a year.

The Government and Electricité de France are paying the price for an "all electric" advertising campaign which they sponsored during the 1970s to the disadvantage of gas. When the 1973 crisis came the consumer was already committed to an irrevocable choice.

In spite of a drop in industrial activity and a belated ban on "all electric" publicity, the rate of power consumption has slowed down only gradually. The annual increase last year was 6.4 per cent compared with 9 per cent in 1976.

Paul Delouvrier, the retiring president of Electricité de France, described the grid's Christmas collapse as "a setback and a humiliation". A recent poll by *Le Figaro* newspaper shows that 47 per cent favour the development of atomic power while 42 per cent are against it. As they feel the brunt of new and more frequent winter black-outs, even the ecologists might soon be joining the pro-nuclear brigade.

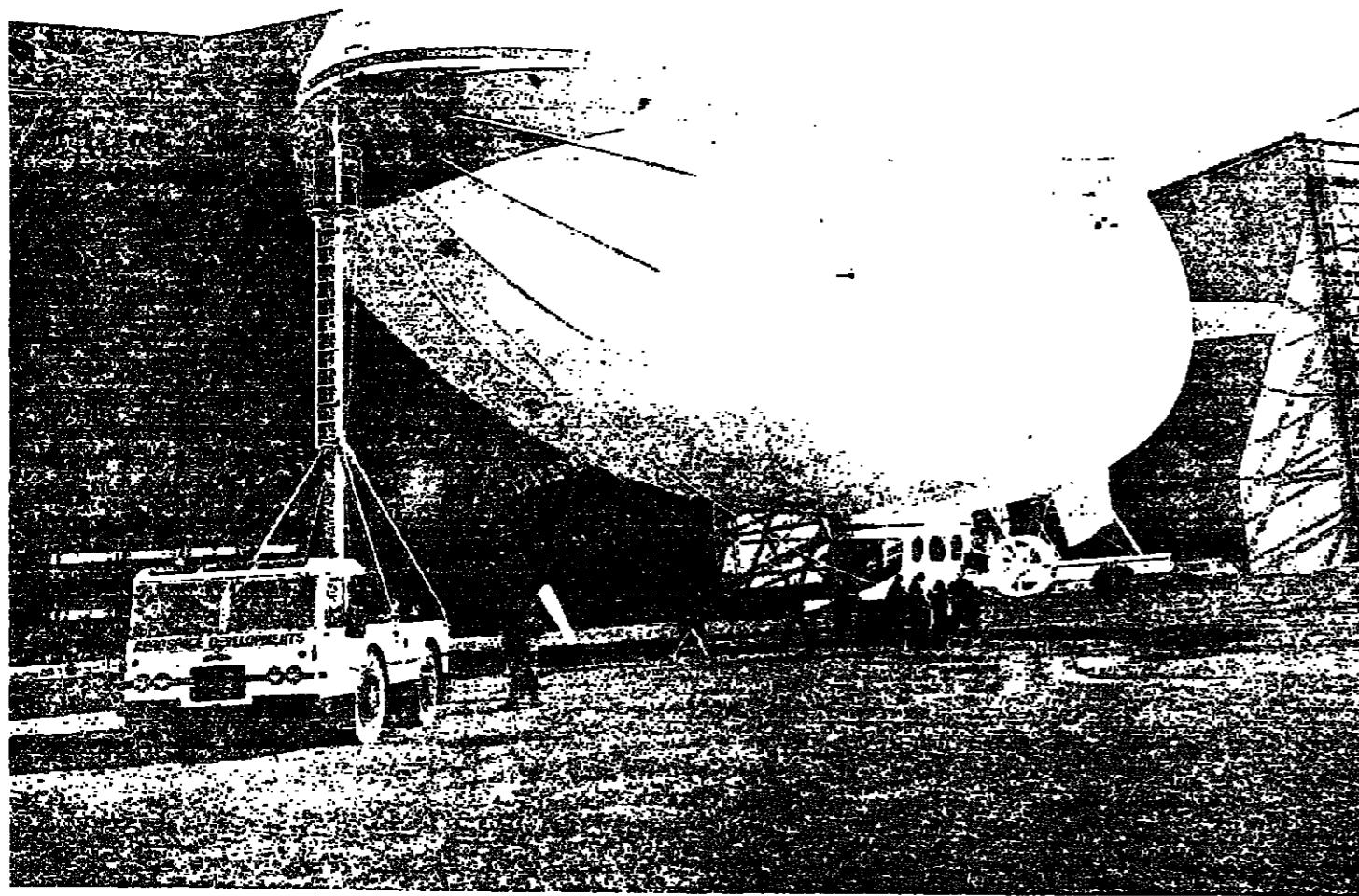
Financial Times  
News-Features

## Airship technology floats to new heights, to be used in South America

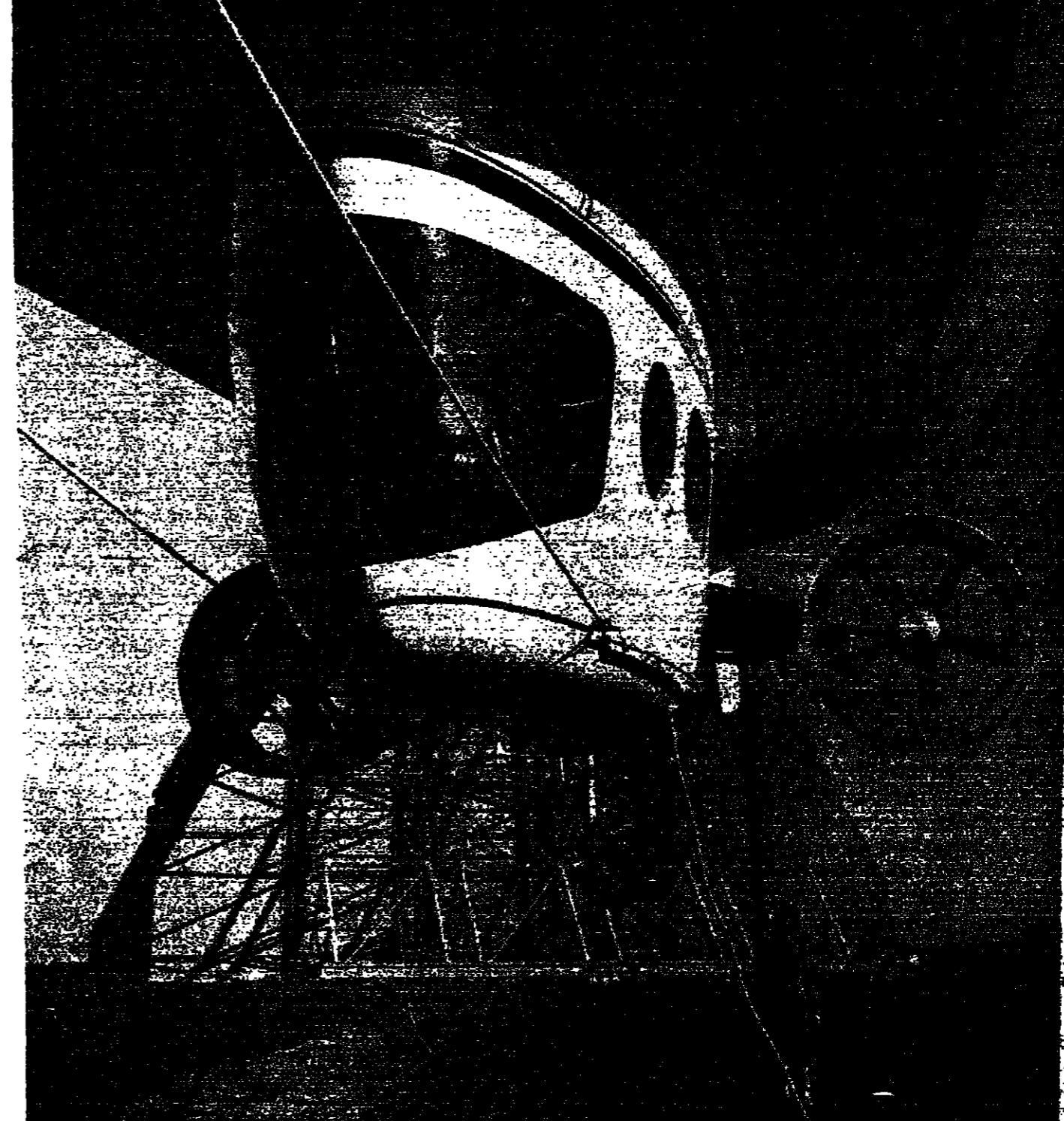
**LONDON**—The first commercial airship to be built in Britain for nearly 50 years made a successful 30-minute maiden flight from Cardington in eastern England recently. One of 22 being built for a Venezuelan company it is seen here moored outside the airship hangars where the famous R101 airship was built in the 1930's.

Code-named AD 500, the airship incorporates features not previously used in lighter-than-air craft. Two 200 horsepower inboard engines drive reverse pitch ducted propellers through transmission shafts and helicopter gearboxes. These can be vectored to change the angle of thrust. The high efficiency fan units operate at

low tip speeds giving very low noise levels and providing greater control on landing and lift-off. Top speed is 115 knots and an endurance in excess of 20 hours at 56 knots is claimed. The white pigmented polyurethane coated polyester envelope contains 5,097 cubic metres of non-inflammable helium and the glass reinforced plastic



The AD500 is the first commercial airship to be built in Britain for 50 years.



The AD500 is powered by two 200 horsepower engines.

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# U.S. oil experts believe: Saudi Arabia will fight any attempt by OPEC at big price increases

NEW YORK, Feb. 24 (R) — U.S. oil industry experts believe Saudi Arabia will fight any attempt by its OPEC partners to push through big price increases because of the loss of oil supplies from Iran.

The Saudis fear that dearer oil could cause a world economic recession which would harm their own interests, the sources said. They are so far charging more only for extra oil produced to help the West and developing countries cope with the shortage from Iran.

But three leading OPEC members—Qatar, the Libyan Jamahiriya and the United Arab

## NATO supreme commander: U.S. won't become involved in Vietnam, Iran situations

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 24 (R) — The United States would not become involved in the Vietnamese or Iranian situations because the possibility of a global conflict would be too great. General Alexander Haig, NATO supreme commander, said here yesterday.

The conflict between China and Vietnam was an example of a conflict in which the Soviet Union

## EEC plans conference on southern Africa's development

LUSAKA, Feb. 24 (R) — The European Common Market and other international bodies plan to hold a major conference in the next few months on the future economic development of southern Africa, a senior EEC official said yesterday.

Mr. Claude Cheysson, commissioner for development aid, said the conference would assess future needs in terms of transport systems, sites for industries, sources of power and training facilities.

But Mr. Cheysson ruled out the participation at such a conference of South Africa. "We don't think the time has come when there is anyone we can speak to in South Africa," he said.

The commissioner said the conference, in which the Commonwealth Secretariat, United Nations agencies and other interested parties would take part, would be non-governmental and would have no authority to take decisions.

"But it should be in a position to establish facts on the basis of which each government and liberation movement can work," Mr. Cheysson said.

The planned conference had the approval of the five frontline states backing the Patriotic Front guerrilla alliance in Rhodesia. Mr. Cheysson said, and the Front's Zambia-based co-president Joshua Nkomo had welcomed the idea.

As well as the frontline group — Angola, Botswana, Mozambique, Tanzania and Zambia — Zimbabwe (Rhodesia) and Namibia should be represented, the latter by the nationalist movement SWAPO (South West Africa Peoples Organisation), Mr. Cheysson said.

## World climate conference concludes:

## Disregard for environment may lead to major climatic changes

GENEVA, Feb. 24 (R) — Significant climatic changes could occur in ten years' time if man continues to disregard his environment. 300 specialists attending a world climate conference said yesterday.

Details of the changes cannot yet be predicted, but if man continues to burn fossil fuels and cut down forests at the present rate, the increased carbon dioxide in the atmosphere will gradually raise the planet's average temperature, they said in a final declaration.

Rainfall patterns could change as well as temperature, the experts said, adding that there was an urgent need for an international study of the relationships between man and his climate.

Dr. Robert White, chairman of the two-week conference

prices run away under panic conditions."

Although the Saudis may no longer be as keen as in the past to hold prices down, they have always been careful about keeping to the letter of OPEC agreements, he added.

The organisation decided in December that prices would rise by 14.5 per cent during 1979. This was before the total shutdown of supplies from the strike-bound oil fields of Iran, the second biggest OPEC exporter.

The new revolutionary government in Tehran is now trying to resume exports.

Walter Levy, an oil adviser to the U.S. Government and private industry, said sellers on the open market were asking twice OPEC's base price of \$13.34 a barrel for oil.

"As long as the importing countries act like helpless giants and make no effort to cope with sharply higher open market prices which could have the most serious economic and financial consequences for all of them, the OPEC countries will naturally be tempted to raise prices," Mr. Levy said.

He added: "If the situation is allowed to continue much longer, OPEC will be under irresistible pressure to raise prices and capture some of the huge trading profits."

The more optimistic sources remained confident that Saudi Arabia would remain a force for moderation.

About eight tons of opium was officially released through the shops but consumption was believed to have been at least ten times greater.

Pakistan's opium production is estimated at around 300 tons and Western narcotics experts say stocks are high, wholesale prices down and a bumper crop expected this spring, some ten per cent over last year's level.

Concern is growing that the collapse of the market in Pakistan, to be followed perhaps by that in Iran, could lead to the drugs flooding the illegal international market.

Addicts desperate for opium recently stormed a shop and looted it while officials were checking stocks. An addict unable to endure his withdrawal symptoms tried to commit suicide by lying across a railway track.

Twenty addicts have died in Sind Province alone and newspapers reported a growing daily

## U.S. court told how bank consultant embezzled over \$10m. with one phone call

He told the court he had helped set up a system to automate the wire transfer room at the Security Pacific Bank, and knew that a ten-cent telephone call could initiate the transfer of funds.

Mr. Rifkin said that last June he began discussions with a local diamond broker to buy \$10 million worth of diamonds. The dealer later went to Geneva to meet representatives of Russalmaz, a Soviet diamond company.

On Oct. 14, Mr. Rifkin cabled the company saying the dealer represented the bank and had the money to buy the diamonds.

The next day, he continued, "I went to the (bank's) wire room, and said it was doing another study and obtained the code or means of identification for workers authorised to make transfers. This was in plain view and I wrote it down on a piece of paper."

He then went to a nearby phone booth and telephoned the wire room. Using the name Mike Hanson and describing himself as a member of the bank's international branch, he asked that \$10.2 million be transferred to a New York bank and then to the Swiss account of Russalmaz.

On Oct. 26, Mr. Rifkin flew to Geneva and, after providing identification demanded by the Soviet firm, was given a suitcase containing the diamonds.

He flew to Luxembourg and, for the first time, saw the diamonds. "I didn't even know what to do with them," he said. "I was astounded the scheme worked."

Mr. Rifkin said he placed the diamonds in a transparent plastic shirt bag, put it in his suitcase and flew back to the United States. Customs officers searched his luggage but failed to find the diamonds, he said.

He gave a number of diamonds to a lawyer friend and tried to sell some of the remainder, he said, but he was arrested at Carlsbad, California, on Nov. 6 and the diamonds were seized.

Emirates have posted overall increases.

The result has been pressure on Saudi Arabia, the biggest OPEC exporter, to follow suit. High prices on the open market could also tempt other OPEC nations to bid for the higher profits at stake.

New York analyst Albert Anton said, however, that Saudi Arabia was "not anxious to see

prices run away under panic conditions."

Although the Saudis may no longer be as keen as in the past to hold prices down, they have always been careful about keeping to the letter of OPEC agreements, he added.

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## IRA guerrillas claim responsibility

## England on alert following bomb attack in country town

YEOVIL, England, Feb. 24 (R) — England went on bomb alert today after blasts shattered the peace of this west country town and Irish Republican guerrillas said they did it.

Four people were injured, one seriously, when the first blast came without warning in a crowded Woolworths store. Shoppers fled screaming into the streets when another bomb, planted in a parked van, rocked the area. The second blast caused no injuries but turned the van, into a heap of smouldering metal.

Army experts rushed to the scene. They destroyed two more devices with controlled explosions and defused a third planted in a supermarket.

Dublin spokesman for the violent provisional wing of the Irish Republican Army (IRA) phoned newspapers and said republican guerrillas were responsible for the attack. Police here said a man in his 20's had been detained in connection with the blasts.

Yesterday's blitz came only hours after Northern Ireland Minister Roy Mason warned that the IRA might be planning a new bombing campaign within the province.

Last month police arrested a dozen men after a spate of IRA attacks on the British mainland in which bombs exploded in hired cars in London and a big gas storage tank was blown up just east of the capital.

There is no indication why the bombers chose this sleepy Somerset town for their attack but recently security has been greatly stepped up in London and there had been speculation the IRA would look for softer targets.

Police throughout the country have been alerted this weekend in case of further attacks and warnings to the public to watch out for suspicious packages were repeated.

## Pakistan's opium addicts said dying 'by dozens' since end of legal supply

ISLAMABAD, Feb. 24 (R) —

Opium addicts are dying by the dozens in Pakistan since the military government suddenly shut off the legal supply, hospitals reported yesterday.

The government outlawed

drugs two weeks ago as part of its

drive towards an Islamic society

based on fundamental principles.

It sealed shops where drugs could be bought legally and made the use of drugs punishable by 80 lashes. Hospitals set up emergency centres to treat addicts who were queuing in scores.

Addicts previously bought opium from about 80 government controlled shops at the equivalent of \$5 for ten grams. The black market price is reported to have doubled with supplies expected to run out within two weeks.

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U.N. resolution seeks to reduce morphine production

GENEVA, Feb. 24 (R) — Sup-

plies of the pain-killing drug mor-

phine are exceeding demand,

increasing the risk of illicit use, the

United Nations Narcotic Drugs

Commission said yesterday.

A resolution adopted by 25

votes to one with two abstentions

at a commission meeting appealed

to producing countries which have

boosted manufacture in recent

years to restrict their morphine

production programmes.

A report before the meeting

listed Australia, France, Holland,

Hungary and the Soviet Union

amongst leading manufacturers of

morphine, which is made from

dried opium poppies. India and

Turkey are the world's main

poppy growing countries.

In a report to the meeting, the

International Narcotics Control

Board predicted that without a

large, unforeseen increase in

demand for morphine for medical

purposes the world's man-

ufacturing capacity would be 50

per cent greater than require-

ments by the early 1980s.

## World News Briefs

Khmer Rouge report attacks on Vietnam

BANGKOK, Feb. 24 (R) — Khmer Rouge rebels who ousted Pol Pot regime said today they were continuing to Vietnamese troops in central and western Kampuchea, killing or wounding more than 200 in recent days. The Khmer Rouge Radio, believed broadcasting from Cambodian, suggest increased pressure on Vietnam. They are believed to be over-extended and facing supply difficulties. Vietnam, now engaged in a border war with China, demands troops in Kampuchea where the pro-Pol Pot government from Phnom Penh last month by a big offensive. Some sources in Bangkok say there are well over 200,000 Chinese troops in the country and that they are on the defensive and northwest.

More bad news for U.S. anti-inflation